



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 7  
13 March 2024

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

Many of you have approached me to ask how Averil is progressing. We are in contact often and she is working hard on remedies for her health challenges. I always pass on to her your messages of support, something that always gladdens her heart. Your prayers are appreciated.

## **NZEI Union Meeting**

**On Thursday 21 March, please arrange to have your child(ren) collected from school by 1:00pm.** Most staff will be attending this meeting. School will remain open for that afternoon, but for supervision only. Regular classes will not take place. There will be a skeleton staff available to supervise any students who cannot be collected by parents between 12:30pm and 1:00pm.

## **Colour Run**

What a wonderful, fun event for everyone! It was great to see so many parents and whānau at school last Friday enjoying this first ever colour run. I suspect our teachers might have had the most fun out of everyone as evidenced by this great photo of Mr Davis and Ms Bryant!

**Well done to our Parents' Association (with assistance from Mr Gordon) for facilitating a great event!**



## **Zone Swimming**

Our best swimmers represented the school with pride at the recent Independent Schools Zone Swimming Sports. While we didn't achieve any firsts or seconds, several students made it into finals for their events. Thanks to Mrs Bigelow for her great organisation.

## **Health**

We are once again being challenged by covid cases and other illnesses in the school. We are encouraging all families to take the usual precautions to keep sickness at bay as much as possible



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

## Cultural Narrative

You may have noticed that we are using the newsletter as a vehicle to share more information with families about aspects of the school that may be unfamiliar or even unknown. This week I would like to share the great work Mrs Wells has led around our St Mark's School Cultural Narrative.

# Our Cultural Narrative

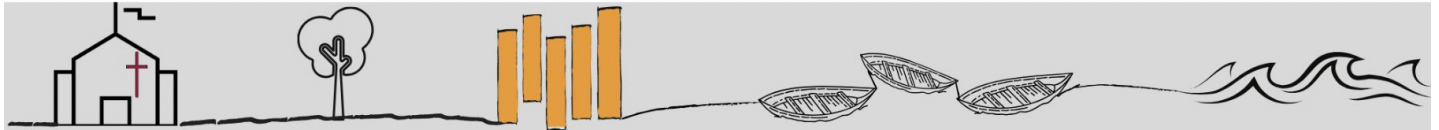
Being located near Ōpāwaho, the Heathcote river, we acknowledge rich connections to Ngā Tuāhuriri, mana whenua of our area. Our Cultural Narrative outlines the importance of Ōpāwaho as a mahinga kai site, and significant places around Banks Peninsula and beyond, providing rich learning opportunities. Our local Opawa community has many resources and connections that we aim to include in our curriculum and programmes so our students can grow within and develop strong links to both this community, and to the wider Christchurch community from where they live.

The school worked closely with Mātauraka Mahaanui to develop culturally sustainable practices and bring our cultural narrative to life when redeveloping the school in 2015. Mātauraka Mahaanui and the staff worked together to develop names in te reo Māori for important elements of the school.

Students progress from Mōkihi (years 0-2), to Waka Pūhara (years 3-5), to Waka Hourua (years 6-8).

Each of the base groups (hapori) or teaching teams connect with a native plant or bird. Names and concepts are also reflected in teaching and learning opportunities.

There is a strong connection for students and whānau to the overarching concept of tūrangawaewae – 'a place to stand' that reflects a strong sense of being empowered and connected with the school and community. In 2021, our centenary year, this concept was a key driver for our pedagogy and practice.



## Our Cultural Narrative

### **Mōkihi - Aukaha kia kaha Strengthen the bindings**

Our Mōkihi learners begin in the sheltered water of the Ōpāwaho, close to the grounds of St Mark's School. Just as a Mōkihi is made of many strands of raupō, our St Mark's School Whānau is made up of many unique students. Together, we strengthen the bindings, aukaha kia kaha. Our Mōkihi students become part of our St Mark's School Whānau, forming strong connections with one another, building a sense of belonging.

### **Waka Pūhara - Kia kotahi te hoe o te waka Paddle in unison**

Our Waka Pūhara learners are working together to venture further into the world. They are ready to go beyond the Ōpāwaho and explore the shoreline. As they support one another in their learning, they must paddle in unison, kia kotahi te hoe o te waka.

### **Waka Hourua - He moana pukepuke ka ekengia e te waka A choppy sea can be navigated**

Our Waka Hourua learners are ready to tackle the open ocean. They are developing the resilience, persistence, and problem-solving skills to navigate a choppy sea of challenges. He moana pukepuke ka ekengia e te waka. Our year-8 leavers are ready to navigate through the storms and adventures of life beyond St Mark's School.



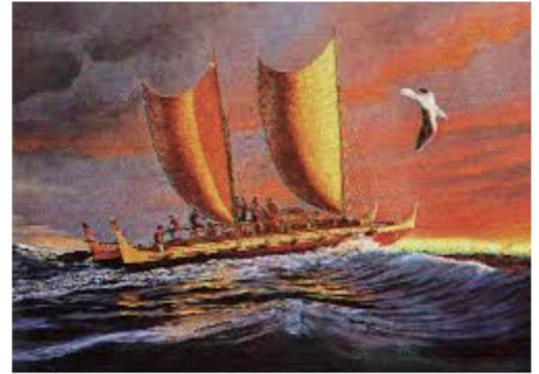


# Our Cultural Narrative

**Mōkihi**



**Waka Hourua**



**Waka Pūhara**



In case you are not sure who you want to contact at school:

Year Level	Class Name	Teacher	Email Contact
New Entrant	Īnaka	Mrs Delwyn Wright	d.wright@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 1/2	Pūtakitaki	Mrs Emily Wells	e.wells@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 1/2	Harakeke	Mrs Sarah Quinlan	s.quinlan@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 3	Kawau	Mrs Tracey Hastings	t.hastings@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 4	Kāmana	Ms May Bryant	m.bryant@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 5	Pīngao	Mrs Liz Coster	l.coster@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 6	Wheke	Mr Ben Davis	b.davis@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 6	Mako	Mrs Renée Spijkerman	r.spijkerman@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 7	Toroa	Mrs Kim Morgan	k.morgan@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 8	Hapuka	Mrs Sarah Learman	s.learman@saintmarks.school.nz
Acting Principal		Mr Adrian Rennie	a.rennie@saintmarks.school.nz
Office Contact		Mrs Louise Elliott	office@saintmarks.school.nz
Specialist Maths Teacher		Mrs Maree Bigelow	m.bigelow@saintmarks.school.nz
Special Programmes		Mr Tom Gordon	t.gordon@saintmarks.school.nz

## 2024 Term 1 School Events

Wednesday 13 - 15 March	Antarctica Virtual Reality Experience Yr 5-8 including huskies!
Thursday 21 March	Teacher Union Meeting 1:00 - 3:00pm
Monday 25 March	Holy Week Service
Tuesday 26 March	Holy Week Service
Wednesday 27 March	Holy Week Service
Thursday 28 March	Holy Week Service
Friday 29 March	Good Friday (School Closed)
Monday 1 April	Easter Monday (School Closed)
Tuesday 2 April	Easter Tuesday (School Closed)
Friday 12 April	End of Term Service 2pm

**Thursday 25 April (In the holidays) ANZAC Service 9.30am at Waltham Pool Memorial Gates. More details to follow.**

## Term 2

Monday 29 April	First Day of Term 2
Monday 29 April	ANZAC Service 9.15am School Hall
Thursday 9 May	School Open Day
Wednesday 15 May	Year 4/5 Camp
Thursday 16 May	Year 4/5 Camp
Friday 17 May	Year 4/5 Camp
Sunday 19 May	Waka Hourua Church at St Mark's 10am
Thursday 23 May	School Cross Country
Friday 31 May	Teacher Only Day (School Closed)
Monday 3 June	King's Birthday (School Closed)
Tuesday 4 June	Zone Cross Country
Wednesday 12 June	Speech Competition Year 5-8
Friday 14 June	Walk With A Purpose Event
Monday 17 June	Parent / Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 18 June	Parent / Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 19 June	Parent / Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 26 June	Matariki Event
Friday 28 June	Matariki Holiday (School Closed)
Friday 5 July	End of Term Service 2pm School Hall

*Romans 5:3-54*

*... we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us.*

Blessings to all,  
Adrian

### Church Certificates

Īnaka	Rohan K-I
Pūtakitaki	Kiara L
Harakeke	Alex P
Kawau	Harriet C
Kāmana	Sophie M
Pīngao	Sonya I
Wheke	Poppy C
Mako	Zoe M
Toroa	Darcy Q
Hāpuka	Lucy H

Church Certificates



Principal Award



Welcome Certificate





# EASTER HOT CROSS BUNS SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

**\$5.00 FOR A 6 PACK**

Flavours: Fruit • Chocolate • Spiced fruitless

Order on **kindo** by 21 March 2024  
Collect your order at the school  
on 27 March 2024

Got questions? Contact us:  
[pa@saintmarks.school.nz](mailto:pa@saintmarks.school.nz)

Why not order  
for friends  
and family too!



## Introducing an easier way to pay

**kindo.**

This year, the PA team are excited to announce the launch of the Kindo app - an easier way to pay for school fundraisers! We're kicking it off with our Easter Hot Cross bun orders - refer to the attached Factsheet for set up details.



Great news! St Mark's School Parent Association are now online with myKindo so that you can order and pay for items or tickets anywhere, anytime. No cash required! It's easy, convenient, open 24/7 and you can order in advance! This is our preferred method of payment, and we encourage all our families to sign up!

### REGISTRATION IS EASY

New to **ezlunch** or myKindo? Use the QR Code or go to <https://shop.tgcl.co.nz> to set up your myKindo account.

Already have an **ezlunch** or myKindo account? Use the QR Code or go to <https://shop.tgcl.co.nz>.

Go to the 'my details' page to update your information and your child(ren)'s details.



### PAYMENT

There are a range of methods you can choose to top up your account, and this can be done at the checkout, or by selecting the myKindo wallet at any time.

### SHOPPING

Choose your shop item/s and add them to your cart. Some items will need you to select a student's name. Once you have made all your purchases, click on your **Cart** then go to **Checkout**. Review your cart, top up your account if needed, and then simply click **Complete Order** and you're done!

Your order will automatically go through to the Parents Association, and you will receive an email receipt confirming your topup and/or purchase!



### KINDO MOBILE APP

Download the Kindo app for free at the Apple app store or Google Play store to make ordering from Kindo even easier. Search 'myKindo' and log in using the credentials you used in your registration.

### Need assistance?

Our helpdesk is open 8am - 4pm weekdays

[hello@mykindo.co.nz](mailto:hello@mykindo.co.nz) or 0508 454 636

Knowledge base online: [support.mykindo.co.nz](https://support.mykindo.co.nz)





# SUPPORTING ST MARK'S SCHOOL



## Part of the St Mark's School Family

For every home referred and sold or listed and sold with us within the school family, we will donate \$1000 to St. Marks School.\*

With Sonia being a past parent, now grandparent, and Sophie a current parent at St Mark's, we are proudly involved with the school community and look forward to giving back.

**Supporting St Mark's school,  
now and for its future**

\*Terms and conditions apply.

**Sonia Cameron** | 027 220 5665  
sonia.cameron@bayleys.co.nz

**Sophie Everson** | 021 025 46007  
sophie.everson@bayleys.co.nz



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